Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-13 (Cancelled).

14. (New) A dry powder inhaler pharmaceutical composition comprising a mixture of a particulate pharmaceutically active ingredient and a particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient.

15. (New) The composition of claim 14, in which the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient has a particle size between 50 and 250 μm.

16. (New) The composition of claim 14, in which the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient has a particle size between 100 and 160 μm.

17. (New) The composition of claim 14, in which the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient has a rugosity between 1.9 and 2.4.

18. (New) The composition of claim 14, in which the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient has a particle size between 50 and 250 μm, and a rugosity between 1.9 and 2.4.

19. (New) The composition of claim 14, in which the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient has a particle size between 100 and 160 μm, and a rugosity between 1.9 and 2.4.

20. (New) The composition of claim 14, in which the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient is prepared from a lactose in powder form manufactured by a process comprising the steps of evaporating, crystallizing, separating, washing, drying and sieving, said lactose powder form being thereafter redissolved in demineralised water, fed between two counter-rotating drums, which are steam-heated and after drying scraped from the surface of the drums by knives.

21. (New) The composition of claim 14, in which the particulate pharmaceutically active ingredient is a particulate solid with a particle diameter between 0.5 and 6 μm.

22. (New) The composition of claim 14, in which the weight ratio of the pharmaceutically active ingredient in relation to the excipient is from 0.1/100 to 50/100.

23. (New) The composition of claim 14, in which the particulate pharmaceutically active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of mucolytics, steroids, sympathomimetics, proteins, peptides and inhibitors of mediator release.

24. (New) The composition of claim 23, in which the composition comprises a mucolytic agent, which is L-lysine N-acetylcysteinate, as the pharmaceutically active ingredient.

25. (New) The composition of claim 14, which comprises a mixture of particulate L-lysine N-acetylcysteinate and roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient, said excipient being constituted by particles of 100 to 160 μm in size and of 1.9 to 2.4 in rugosity, the weight ratio of particulate L-lysine N-acetylcysteinate in relation to the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient being between ½ and ¼.

26. (New) The composition of claim 25, in which the weight ratio of particulate L-lysine N-acetylcysteinate in relation to the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient is between ½ and ¼.

27. (New) The composition of claim 14, which comprises a mixture of particulate L-lysine N-acetylcysteinate and roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient, said excipient being constituted by particles of 100 to 160 μm in size and of 1.9 to 2.4 in rugosity, the weight ratio of particulate L-lysine N-acetylcysteinate in relation to the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient being of the order of ¼.

28. (New) The composition of claim 14, wherein said pharmaceuticaly-active ingredient is budenoside.

29. (New) The composition of claim 14, wherein said pharmaceutically-active ingredient is salbutamol.

30. (New) The composition of claim 14, wherein said pharmaceutically-active ingredient is sodium cromoglycate.

31. (New) A process for the preparation of a dry powder inhaler pharmaceutical composition comprising a mixture of a particulate pharmaceutically-active ingredient and a particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient, which comprises a step of mixing a dry particulate pharmaceutical active ingredient with a particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient.

32. (New) The process of claim 31, in which the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient has a particle size between 50 and 250 μm.

33. (New) The process of claim 31, in which the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient has a particle size between 100 and 160 μm.

34. (New) The process of claim 31, in which the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient has a rugosity between 1.9 and 2.4.

35. (New) The process of claim 31, wherein the particulate roller-dried anhydrous β-lactose excipient is prepared from a lactose in powder form by a process comprising the following steps of evaporating, crystallizing, separating, washing, drying and sieving, said lactose in powder form being thereafter redissolved in demineralised water, fed between two counter-rotating drums, which are steam-heated and after drying scraped from the surface of the drums by knives.

36. (New) A process of pulmonarily administering the dry powder inhaler pharmaceutical composition of claim 14, which comprises the step of pulmonarily administering an amount of said composition effective to achieve lung deposition and penetration to a patient in need thereof.

37. (New) The process of claim 36, for treating asthma.

38. (New) The process of claim 36, wherein said lung deposition is approximately the same for mild, moderately and severely restricted patient airflow.